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Sirhan Rage Over RFK Is Reported

NEW YORK, June 16 (UPI) —Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the accused killer of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, flew into a rage and shouted that Kennedy "should never be President" only hours before the assassination, it was reported today.

The report, published in Life magazine, came from a Mexican and a Puerto Rican who said they had encountered Sirhan on the night of June 4 in the lobby of the Ambassado Hotel in Los Angeles.

The magazine said the two, Enrique Rabago, 35, an unemployed mechanic, and a second unidentified witness, came forward voluntarily to tell about the encounter at 9:15 p.m. PDT., four and a half hours before Kennedy was shot.

Sirhan, wearing white pants and a white shirt without a tie, had just been thrown out of a victory party for Republican senatorial candidate Max Rafferty because, refused a drink by a waitress, he had made a fuss and contemptuously tipped her $20 "for nothing," the magazine report said.

Describing the incident to Rabago and his compainion, Sirhan went into a tirade against "the rich Rafferty people who step all over the poor," the magazine said.

But when Rabago nodded toward the embassy room on the other side of the lobby where Kennedy's victory celebration was beginning and said, "Robert Kennedy might help the poor," Sirhan flew into a rage, the article said.

"Kennedy, Kennedy, he should never be President. You think he really wants to help the poor," Sirhan reportedly shouted, his voice quavering. "Kennedy helps himself. He's just using the poor. Can't you see that?"